was made to undertake a national level study for quantification, characterization and disposal practices being adopted in major cities of the country. Accordingly, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has undertaken a study on preparation of a "Guideline Document for Environmentally Sound Recyling of E-Waste" for the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories as well as the industries, through an expert agency having experience in this field.

(d) No, Sir. The provisions under the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 as amended in 2000 and 2003 include E-waste. These rules regulate the generation, collection, storage, treatment, disposal, export and import of all hazardous wastes. The processes generating hazardous wastes are listed in Schedule 1 of these Rules. The residues and wastes generated from the operations in electronic industry are considered as hazardous wastes and are included at SI.No. 31 of this Schedule. Further, as per the provisions of these Rules, Electrical and Electronic Assemblies are covered under category B 1110 of the Schedule 3 applicable for Import and Export of Hazardous Wastes, and the wastes under this category are only permitted for direct reuse and not for recycling or final disposal.

Fixing MSP of cotton

*92. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton, is fixed in such a manner that the farmers are unable to get back even the production cost of their crops and are compelled to commit suicide due to debt;

(b) if so, the justification thereof;

(c) the number of farmers' representatives and their percentage against the total number of members in the Committee which fixes the MSP;

(d) the steps taken by Government for taking farmers into confidence while fixing MSP; and

(e) the achievement made by Government therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of two basic varieties of cotton *viz.* F-414/H-777/J-34 and H-4 on the basis of recommendations made by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The CACP, *inter alia,* considers the cost of production of crops including expenditures on fixed and variable inputs, the trend of domestic and international prices, input output price parity, demand-supply scenario, imports and exports, expert opinion of Government and non-Governmental organizations are also taken into consideration. The MSP of other varieties of cotton is fixed by the Ministry of Textiles taking into account the quality differential, normal price differential and other relevant factors.

(c) At present, the CACP has four Members besides the Chairman. Of the four, two are non-official members who possess long agricultural experience with active association with the farming community.

(d) and (e) With a view to take the farmers' interest into consideration, CACP holds interactive meetings with the Farmers' Organization, State Agricultural Universities and Government Authorities. Further, the Commission undertakes field visits for assessing ground reality through interaction/consultations with farmers in different parts of the Country.

Stopping export of pulses

*93. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that experts have warned Government to stop export of pulses because in the year 2005-2006 there has been acute shortage of pulses in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are now planning to import the pulses; and

(d) if so, the reasons for importing it when we had been exporting it earlier?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The domestic production of pulses falls short of the consumption